

AROUND THE WORLD WITH WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN

HE FINDS MUCH OF INTEREST IN THE CITIES OF ANCIENT EGYPT

By WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN.



William Jennings Bryan.

How Nature Has Preserved the Unique Evidence of Egypt's Ancient Civilization—Early Egyptians Resorted to Embalming to Preserve Connection Between Body, "Double" Soul, and "the Luminous"—Rooms Constructed in Tombs for Soul and "Double"—Mummy of Israel's "Pharaoh of the Oppression"—Strange Statues, Gigantic, Diminutive, Beautiful and Grotesque to be Seen at the Museum of Gizeh—Ancient Wooden Figure With Face Resembling Late Senator Hanna—French Catalogues at Museum Cause English and American Readers No Little Inconvenience—Statue of Ramses, 45 Feet High in Temple of Luxor—Obelisks Represent Sun's Rays—Tall Monolith Towering Over Cultivated Fields All That Remains of the Biblical City of "On"—Method of Transporting and Placing These Gigantic Shafts Unknown—Temple of Ammon Most Interesting of Egypt's Ruins—How the Rosetta Stone Unlocked the Secrets of Ancient History—"The Yellow Kid" in Hieroglyphics—Famous "Singing Statue" of Memnon Bearing Inscriptions Written by Greek and Roman Travelers—Long Line of Tombs Where Kings Lie Buried—A Colored Portrayal of a Hell With Punishment by Fire—Agriculture, Ship-Building, Carpentering and Other Industries Meticulously Pictured—Life-Like Drawings of Animals—Spacious Subterranean Halls Where Blue-Blooded Bulls Lie Buried—Mr. Bryan Climbs a Pyramid and Finds the "Eternal Sphinx" Somewhat of a Disappointment.

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We have been moving among the oldest monuments of the world, and they make the rest of the world seem young. In Japan, a Buddhist temple built 1,200 years ago, impressed us with the youthfulness of American institutions. In China, the ancient temples that had stood for twenty centuries, and were told of customs and laws even older; in India we found a pagoda some 2,500 years old, and visited the site of a city whose foundations were probably laid more than 2,000 years ago; but here we see the mummified forms of human beings who lived 2,000 years before Christ was born, inspect the handwork of men who laid down the chisel before Abraham appeared upon the earth, look upon colors that have withstood the changes and defied the elements for forty centuries, and handle wheat that grew upon the banks of the Nile long before Joseph built the granaries for Pharaoh.

The guides count centuries as tripping on the tongues as a treasury expert, or an insurance magnate handles millions. They discuss dynasties that rose and fell when Europe was shrouded in darkness, before the light of history dawned upon the Caucasus and the Yangtze; they decipher hieroglyphics that kept their secrets for ages, and lead one among ruins that astonish by their immensity as well as by the artistic skill which they reveal.

Back in the misty past—in the prehistoric period—there were two Egyptian kingdoms, one occupying upper, and the other lower Egypt. This was prior to 2,500 B. C., and from the rising scenes engraved upon stone, one can imagine the conflicts which took place along the fertile valley of the Nile before Egypt's earliest known ruler, united the two kingdoms, assumed the title of Lord of Both Lands, fashioned a double crown for himself, and adopted the fly, or lotus, and the papyrus as symbols of his consolidated empire. We are probably indebted to certain natural peculiarities of Egypt for the preservation of the unique evidences of ancient civilization found here. First, there is but a small area of tillable land stretched along the most wonderful of rivers and guarded on either side by a barren waste that offers greater protection than a wall. Second, the climate of Egypt is dry, and there are no drenching rains to deface and no violent changes of temperature to disintegrate. Third, the temples and tombs are so massively built as to discourage the vandal; and fourth, the sands of the desert have drifted in and concealed for a hundred generations many of the most valuable of these relics of a bygone age.

There is such a wealth of archaeological treasures here that one scarcely knows where to begin or how to condense the most important things into the space allotted to a newspaper article. I shall not attempt to describe things chronologically, because some of the temples have been added by different kings and dynasties until they represent the art and architecture of many hundred years. The temple at Karnak, for instance, bears the impress of Egypt's rulers from Thutmose to the Ptolemies, a period of some 1,200 years, and the building of the numerous pyramids covered even a longer period.

As the tourist usually begins a trip through Egypt with a visit to Cairo, he is likely to find the great Egyptian introduction to his subsequent investigations. Here one finds samples of the Museum of Gizeh, a fit of all the antiquities of the country, excepting the pyramids and the temples, and there are mummies, sarcophagi, statues, carvings and hieroglyphics from these, recorded in space is devoted to mummies, some from the tombs of kings, but many of more humble rank. The early Egyptians believed that man was composed of several different entities. First, there was the body, and second, the double—a sort of invisible form reproducing the features of the body. Next came the soul, represented as a human-headed bird, and then a spark of the divine fire, called *Khu*, which has been translated as "the Luminous." It was to prevent the departing of these attending forms that embalming was resorted to. By suspending the decomposition of the body, they thought that they could preserve the connection between it and the double, the soul and the Luminous, and by prayers and offerings

these could be saved from the second death.

This is the explanation of the mummy given by archaeologists. The double, it was supposed, never left the place where the mummy rested, and the soul, while it went away to commune with the gods, returned from time to time, and for this reason mummies were made for the reception of the soul and for the habitation of the double. One can hardly believe as he looks upon the shriveled forms that they were interred so long ago. I will include with this photograph a face of the mummy of Egypt's greatest ruler, and known as "the Pharaoh of the Oppression," who died more than 3,000 years ago. The hand no longer seizes the scepter, the feet look no more upon the gigantic statues which he scattered along the Nile, and the voice does not now dwell in the making of "bricks without straw," but the mortal remains of this famous ruler vividly recall the days of Israel's bondage.

With the mummies are many mummy cases, some covered with hieroglyphics, some ornamented with pictures in colors, and most of them covered with a lin upon which are a face mask and an outline of the form of the occupant. The process by which these bodies have been preserved is still a mystery, but the fact that they have outlived dynasties and survived the countless changes of so many centuries gives them a lasting interest.

The collection of statues and images of gods, human beings, beasts and birds runs up into the thousands. Some of these are heroic in size, and are not more than an inch in height; some are strong, some beautiful and some grotesque. Granite, both red and black, alabaster, stone, iron, bronze, and clay—all have been used in the requisition for this work. Some of the bronze has, upon analysis, been found to contain practically the same combination of metals as the bronze now used. There are even statues in wood, and one of these—a photograph of which I secured—attracted my attention because the head and face bear a resemblance to the late Senator Hanna. It is called "Sheshek el Feled," or village chief; that it should have resisted decay for more than forty centuries is little less than marvelous.

The excavators have been searching for historical records, and have occasionally found treasures of great pecuniary value. A considerable quantity of gold and silver in the form of jewelry has been unearthed, and the museum contains specimens of exquisite workmanship which not only display the skill of the artificers, but portray the habits and customs of the early Egyptians.

The museum also contains enough of cloth, found with the mummies, and of pictures of looms, to show that weaving was an industry with which the people of those days were familiar. But we must leave the museum and proceed to those masterpieces which are too large for any roof save that formed by the vaulted skies. I am, however, constrained to offer one criticism of the museum in passing: It is under the control of a French society, and the only catalogue obtainable is printed in French. While most of the exhibits bear a brief description in both French and English, some are labeled in French only, and a few not at all. As there are no guides to show a visitor through the numerous rooms and point out the principal objects of interest, those who are unable to read French are at a great disadvantage. Considering the number of English and American tourists, it seems strange that more attention should not be paid to their convenience.

But to the temples. We reached Egypt after the regular tourist season was over, and could not visit all of the ruins. We selected the most famous, those of the two ancient cities, Thebes and Memphis, and they alone would repay a visit to Egypt. The present city of Luxor, 420 miles from Cairo, covers a small part of the vast area once occupied by "Hundred-gated Thebes."

In the very heart of the city a mammoth temple has been found where kings worshipped through many reigns. It was built during the eighteenth dynasty (B. C. 1500), on the site of a still older sanctuary and dedicated to Ammon, his wife, Mut, and their son, Khons, the moon-god. Some of the columns are 12 feet in diameter, more than 40 feet in height, and support great blocks of red granite 20 feet long and four feet in width and thickness. Some of the columns represent clustered papyrus and capitals shaped like the lotus bud. In the temple are a number of statues of Ramses II, some sitting, some standing. One of these statues is 45 feet in height, and another of less dimensions was unearthed only about a year ago. When excavations were begun, the statues were serenely resting on the top of the temple, and it is believed that further excavations will disclose an avenue leading to other temples two miles away.

In front of the Luxor temple is an obelisk of pink granite, a part of which is still under ground. Obelisks were always erected in pairs, and the companion of this one was removed some years ago to Paris. These great monoliths come down to us from the period when the Egyptians worshipped the sun, and they were intended to represent his rays. The oldest Egyptian obelisk is at Heliopolis, not far from Cairo, and is 66 feet in height. It is supposed to have been erected 2,000 to 2,500 B. C., but it is in an excellent state of preservation and bids

fair to bear testimony for ages yet to the reverence felt by the ancients for the sun. At one time Heliopolis was a thriving city, and is referred to in the Bible as "On," but today the obelisk stands alone in the desert, the cultivated fields, all of the buildings having disappeared.

While the obelisk at Heliopolis out-ranks all others in age, the one at Karnak, in the suburbs of Luxor, has the distinction of being the tallest and yet remaining. It is eight and one-half feet in diameter at the base and 97 1/2 feet in height (eight and one-half feet less than the obelisk at Rome). The obelisk was cut in a single shaft, most of them from granite quarries near Assuan. These quarries are more than 500 miles south of Cairo, and it is supposed that the obelisks were transported on the Nile to the places where they have since been found, but how they were handled or placed in position no one knows.

The temple of Ammon, at Karnak, is generally regarded as the most interesting of Egyptian ruins. It is the work of many kings, one adding a sanctuary, another a pylon, another a court, etc.—each placing his cartouche, or seal upon his work. This temple, which was officially styled the "Temple of the World," covers an immense area. One pylon, or gateway, is more than 300 feet wide, nearly 150 feet high, and has walls 16 feet thick. One court covers almost 1,000 square yards, and one aisle leads between pillars 22 feet in height and 12 feet in diameter and supporting capitals of 11 feet. The stones used in this temple are of enormous size, and they were probably raised to their positions by means of levers, the method being also the method employed when attempts have recently been made to restore fallen columns.

The hieroglyphics upon the walls, the columns, the obelisks and the statues, after remaining a puzzle for ages, have been deciphered and given into a consecutive history. This was made possible by the discovery, in 1793, of what is known as the Rosetta stone (now in the British museum) at the mouth of the Nile. It was found by a French engineer named Bouchard. This stone bears a decree inscribed in three languages—ancient Egyptian, modern Egyptian and Greek—and furnishes the key to unlock the secrets of ancient history.

The pictures represent sacrificial ceremonies, domestic and industrial scenes, battles, triumphal processions—all phases of life, in fact. One wall contains, in hieroglyphics, the treaty of peace which Ramses II, concluded with the Hittites. If such a treaty represents Ramses II, holding a group of prisoners by the hair, and raising a club as if to strike. Close by the sea and Ammon is delivering him chains, and the faces of different vanquished nations, the faces being so true to life that the Israelites brought from Palestine can easily be distinguished from the Ethiopians and Nubians. The scene is a small, but heads seen often in the drawings represent "the yellow kid," and the donkeys are exactly like those seen today. Luxor and Karnak are on the east bank of the Nile, the Thebes required both sides of the river for their great population, and the west bank is also rich in evidences of ancient civilization. The Ramesseum is here and would attract more attention if it were not overgrown by larger temples. Here also are the "Colossi of Memnon," one of them known to literature as the singing statue. This is described by Strabo and Juvenal and bears many resemblances to Latin and Greek made by those who visited it under the Roman rule. Hadrian looked upon it 130 A. D., and a poetess of his day declares that the statue greeted the emperor. It is supposed that the statue, which was 60 feet high, fell from the head of the statue just after sunrise was caused by the change in temperature, the granite having been cracked; at any rate, the sound ceased to be heard, and with its companion, now sits silent, and with its companion gazes upon the barley field that reaches out in every direction from their feet.

More interesting than the Ramesseum or the Colossi are the tombs of the kings, some 42 of which have already been discovered. At this point the west side of the valley of the Nile is walled in by a range of limestone hills, the size of a small, rocky valley which winds its way back through the hills and terminates at the foot of steep walls just west of the hill mentioned.

Here are the tombs, hewn in the solid rock, the most elaborate of which is the tomb of Seti, or Seti, the father of Ramses II. This tomb burrows into the hill to the depth of 330 feet, a flight of steps leading down through different levels and different chambers to the final vault. The walls are covered with figures in colors representing them in the act of making offerings to the various gods. There are also drawings illustrating scenes in this world and life as it was supposed to be in the next. Some of these pictures portray a hell where the wicked are punished by fire, and some are also pictures which have been interpreted to represent the resurrection and judgment.

Not far away is the tomb of "the Pharaoh of the Exodus," which contains the great granite statue of the king, and is closed by the tomb of another king, the mummified form of a Pharaoh, still reposes. Grave robbing, however, was so popular an amusement in those days that the bodies of nearly all the kings have been removed for safety to a secret vault, which was so carefully concealed that they were not found until the nineteenth century.

At Memphis, which is only about 18 miles from Cairo, there are tombs of less importance, the sarcophagi of Ramses II, and the sarcophagi of the sacred bulls. In one of the tombs of Mastabas, as tombs of this style are called, some of the drawings that have been most widely reproduced, one place a boy is fattening geese by the stuffing process; in another, cranes are being fed; here, rams are treading in the seed, and there, a battle horned and hornless are being driven by a river. Agriculture, ship-building, carpentering and other industries are minutely pictured. While the human figures are stiff and angular, the birds

and beasts are so exactly like what we see today that one could easily believe them to have been drawn by a modern artist.

The sarcophagi of the Sacred Bulls, in number, are hewn out from single pieces of granite and are covered with immense slabs of the same kind of stone. Each is large enough to contain a good sized animal, and some of them are covered with hieroglyphics, the pedigree of the blue-blooded occupants. These carcasses of the royal line rest in subterranean vaults hewn out of rock and connected by spacious halls.

Still nearer to Cairo, only six miles away, in fact, are the great pyramids of Gizeh—Cheops and Khephren. These have been described so often that any elaborate comment upon them might weary the reader. We climbed to the summit of the largest, and by doing so not only gained an idea of the immensity of this 2,000,000 cubic feet of stone, but obtained an excellent view of the green valleys on the one side and the yellow plain of shifting sand upon the other, and the pyramids stand upon the dividing line between Egypt's far-famed fertile lands and one of the most barren of earth's deserts.

We also followed the narrow passage which leads to the center of the pyramid and passed into the empty granite sarcophagus, which for more than 4,000 years kept the body of the builder concealed from the sight of man, and when we came out, half crawling and half climbing, each assisted by two Arabs, our muscles, as well as our memories testified that we had seen all of this stupendous pile.

At the foot of these two pyramids stands the silent Sphinx, and near it, a granite temple almost as old. The Sphinx itself is a little disappointing, because not exactly as often shown in the foreground and the pyramids behind it, and it thus appears relatively larger than it really is. It represents the body of an animal with a human head, and, like the great pyramids, it just out into the valley. It was a grand conception of the brain of one long ago forgotten, and is the oldest product of the chisel of man. It has outlived unnumbered generations, and looking upon it and then one is awed by the sense of their antiquity and recognizes the appropriateness of the lines of the lecturer, Stoddard:

"Eternal Sphinx!
The pyramids are thine;
Their giant summits guard thee night and day;
On their dark look when stars in splendor shine,
Or while around their crests the sunbeams play;
Thine own coevals, who with thee remain
Colossal guards of the boundless plain."
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CEMENT IN THE SOUTH.
Rapidly Pushing to the Front as a Building Material—A Great Aid in Our Marvelous Development.

(Special to News and Observer.)

Baltimore, Md., July 7.—In view of the rapidly increasing uses of cement and the possibilities of cement manufacture in the South, the Manufacturers' Record of this week reviews the remarkable development of the cement industry in the United States, and says:

"In 1880 the United States produced 3,800,000 tons of pig-iron; last year the total production was nearly 23,000,000 long tons, or a little over six times as much as the production of a quarter of a century ago. This is everywhere accepted as one of the most marvelous growths in industrial history, and yet it is not to be compared with the rate of growth in the manufacture of Portland cement. Wherever one turns he can but be struck with the amazing increase in the use of cement for concrete construction. Not only in great office buildings and great factories, but in hotels, dwellings and in other forms of construction work, concrete is everywhere coming into use. The creation of the Portland cement industry as a result of this form of construction is one of the wonders of the industrial world. In 1880 the total output of Portland cement in the United States was 42,000 barrels; last year it was 34,000,000 barrels, or over 800 times as much; whereas in pig-iron production the output of 1905 was only about six times as much as that of 1880. And yet the growth of the cement industry has in no way interfered with the growth of the iron industry. On the contrary, but for the creation of this new industry, the construction development of the country would have been halted, or else we would have had an absolute iron and steel famine. Outside of the general value to the country by the development of such a great industry with its vast creation of wealth and of employment, there is the great specific value of having come at such a fortunate time to supplement iron and steel, and equally important in helping to save American forests from complete destruction. As concrete has supplanted iron, so has it helped the lumber situation by coming into many forms of construction where timber would otherwise have been essential. The demand for timber will continue to grow to such an extent as to endanger even beyond what we have heretofore seen our forest interests, and but for cement this would become far worse. This industry, therefore, has not only helped the lumber situation by coming into many forms of construction where timber would otherwise have been essential. The demand for timber will continue to grow to such an extent as to endanger even beyond what we have heretofore seen our forest interests, and but for cement this would become far worse. This industry, therefore, has not only helped the lumber situation by coming into many forms of construction where timber would otherwise have been essential. 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